

## **Abstract**

**Title:***Evaluation of the Knowledge of Ardabil Dentists Regarding Dental Consideration of Bisphosphonate Drug User Patients*

### **Background and Aim:**

*Bisphosphonates have been used in the treatment of osteoporosis, hypercalcemia of malignancy, bone metastasis and osteopenia control. Simultaneous use of bisphosphonates with the dental surgical procedures increases the risk of osteonecrosis in the patients which calls the attentions of dentists in this regard. The present study determined the knowledge of general dentists in Ardabil Province regarding dental considerations in the patients using bisphosphonate.*

### **Materials and Methods:**

*In this descriptive cross-sectional trial, 146 general dentists were selected from those practicing in the province and studied by means of a questionnaire. The questions comprised demographic items and knowledge about dental considerations among patients using bisphosphonate. Dentists got 1 point for each correct answer and their sum scores were calculated from maximum 25 scores. The knowledge scores were classified in 3 groups of weak (7-12 scores); moderate (12-17 scores) and good (over 17 scores). The participant's knowledge was statistically analyzed regarding their gender, age and work experiences by chi-square test.*

### **Results:**

*The mean knowledge scores of the dentists were  $14 \pm 3.9$  with the range of 7-23 points. Poor knowledge was found among 29.3%; moderate knowledge was seen among 50.9% and 19.8% of dentists showed good knowledge. Slightly higher good knowledge rate was found among the dentists with work experience of less than 10 years compared to others. However, dentists with the ages under 30 years old showed 3 fold more frequency of good knowledge compared to the dentists over 30 years old ( $p=0.001$ ).*

### **Conclusion:**

*Totally; adequate knowledge were found among the studied dentists regarding dental considerations among the patients using bisphosphonates; Due to the importance of preventions of osteonecrosis risk factors following using bisphosphonates; more instructions are required in this field.*

### **Key words:**

*Bisphosphonate, Dental consideration, Knowledge, General dentists*